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SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, let me just continue with my earlier remarks. Senator Hilgert picked up on those remarks which related to the Mideast cartel, oil cartel, and I appreciate the nature of his comments because it is good to be reminded that this thing called jingoism isn't...and extreme nationalism isn't something to be encouraged. But, Senator Hilgert, whether it's in the Mideast or anywhere else in the world, what I'm talking about is the idea of a cartel, an economic cartel. And a cartel is a cartel is a cartel wherever it is. But what I was trying to get to is how it is that in my opinion at least government action by our government, whether it's our state government or our federal government, is entirely justified and subsidies are entirely justified when you're placed in this kind of competition where other governments are dictating to you in a sense the rules of the game. Where cartels determine the price of oil then you have basically three alternatives--you can diplomatically and/or militarily seek to destroy the underlying basis, the governments, that underlie the cartel, and that's totally unacceptable, at least I think and I hope for most people. The second alternative is to try to find enough alternative sources of oil that you can effectively destroy the percentage of market that they could control and by that means destroy the inflated price that they dictate to us. And we seek to do that. We're continuing exploration of reserves in the North Sea, in the South Pacific. And, of course, one of the major issues that will be facing us in the next year or two is brought about by this whole situation and that, of course, is the idea of exploring and producing oil in the Arctic refuge. The other thing that we need to do in conjunction with considering and exploring for additional resources of oil is the idea that we've all talked about in one form or another and that is to develop alternative sources of energy to replace and to use oil and to replace oil in the different kinds of technologies that we have that need an energy source. And so government subsidies to explore the use of solar energy, government subsidies to explore the use of nuclear energy, to explore the use of wind energy, and to explore the use of renewable energy that comes from the production of ethanol, all of those, in my opinion, in the practical context in which we are put, are legitimate reasons for government to provide subsidies. And we do that and we